GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1219
ANSWERED ON:21.08.2007
MAPPING OF TEA GARDENS
Pallani Shamy Shri K.C .

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Tea Board has plans to tie up with the Indian Space Research Organisation(ISRO) for mapping the tea gardens in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also proposed to set up Village Resource Centres and to establish connectivity with each garden;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken to further promote the production of tea in the country, particularly in the tea estates in Tamil Nadu?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH)

(a) & (b): Yes, Sir. Tea Board has proposed to collaborate with the ISRO for utilizing its services in the areas of remote sensing and GIS for the benefit of the tea industry during the 11th Plan period.

(c) & (d): Yes, Sir. The Village Resource Centres, would also establish connectivity with each tea garden for collection of information pertaining to the various aspects of tea production.

(e) In order to promote the production of tea in the country the Government of India has sanctioned a major scheme, -Special Purpose Tea Fund (SPTF), among others, which provides for extending financial support to tea gardens including in the State of Tamil Nadu by way of long term loan and subsidy for undertaking uprooting and replanting/rejuvenation of the old tea bushes.